

This week we pray in love for:

The world

- ♦ Peace and reconciliation
- ♦ Victims of war, the hungry, the homeless and refugees
- ♦ All organisations and charities which work to end suffering
- ♦ Prisoners and the persecuted

In our Diocesan Prayer Diary, we pray for the parish of Odell in the deanery of Sharnbrook

October prayers for...

Kensworth

Common Rd from Dovehouse Lane to Hollicks Lane

Studham

Pubs and businesses; and Knoll House

Whipsnade

Chiltern Cottage to the Zoo and Dagnall Road

This week please remember in your prayers; those in the midst of illness, operations or accidents, including Frank and Barbara Walker, Trish Palmer, Alan Geeson, Ann and Malcolm Weir, Wendy Kennedy, Chris Hazell, Catherine, Hilda, Mike and Karen; and those who have died recently.

Do you have a name or a request for prayer that you wish to have included on this prayer list? Please email Nicola on revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com before Thursday each week.

A prayer for this week: Gracious God, help us to accept your invitation of love and to offer that invitation to others around us. ***Amen.***

Readings for next week: Isaiah 35: 3-6;
2 Timothy 4: 5-17; Luke 10: 1-9

• ***Dates for your diary***

- **Sunday 11th October, 5-6pm** – 'Good Book Club', Studham Church
- **Tuesday 13th October, 3pm** – Kensworth School Collective Worship, Kensworth School
- **Wednesday 14th October, 12.30pm** – Whipsnade Village Lunch, Whipsnade Village Hall
- **Wednesday 14th October, 2.50pm** – Studham School Collective Worship, Studham School
- **Thursday 15th October, 12.30pm** – Dunstable Deanery Chapter, Toddington
- **Friday 16th October, 2.30pm** – Kensworth School Harvest Service, Kensworth Methodist Church
- **Friday 16th October, from 3.30pm** – Kids' Club, Studham Church

Churchyard working parties

Tuesday 13th October, 10am-12.30pm – Studham, led by the Friends of the Common
Saturdays 17th and 24th October, 7th November, 9am-12pm – Kensworth

Foodbank requirements for October:

Meat in sauce; rice puddings; pasta sauce; long-life milk; tinned vegetables; tinned tomatoes; biscuits; sweets and sweet treats; carrier bags (in good, clean condition); baked beans (yes, really!) No pasta or rice please.

Welcome to the United Benefice of Kensworth, Studham and Whipsnade

*Part of the North Chilterns Group of
Parishes*

Sunday 11th October 2026
Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

Kensworth from 10.15am – Messy Holy Communion
Studham 10.30am – Holy Communion
Whipsnade 9.00am – Holy Communion with Sunday School

Services next week: 18th October

Kensworth 10.30am – A Service of Stillness and Reflection
Studham 10.30am – Holy Communion with Children's Church
Whipsnade 9.00am – Family Service

If this is your first visit to one of our churches, then please make yourself known to whoever gives you a service order. If you need a gluten-free wafer or Holy Communion brought to you in your seat, please let us know. The rector (Nicola) can be reached on (01582) 872223 or at revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com. Please also email Nicola if you'd like to receive this service sheet weekly by email. We hope you find your time with us prayerful, inspiring and enjoyable.

Sunday 11th October 2026
Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

The Collect

O God, forasmuch as without you we are not able to please you; mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A reading from Isaiah

Isaiah 25: 1-9

O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt.

Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled. On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death for ever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

A reading from St Paul's letter to the Philippians

Philippians 4: 1-9

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Hear the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

All: Glory to You, O Lord

Matthew 22: 1-14

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again, he sent other slaves, saying, "Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet." But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, "The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet." Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. 'But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, "Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?" And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Prayer after Communion

Holy and blessed God, you have fed us with the body and blood of your Son and filled us with your Holy Spirit: may we honour you, not only with our lips but in lives dedicated to the service of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS:

What was the last invitation which you accepted? How does it feel to accept God's invitation of love to you?

For parents and carers: ask your children, "How does it feel when you are invited to a party? How does it feel to invite others?"